REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Currently, claims 10-30 and 58-61 are pending in this application.

The specification has been amended to update the status of parent application no. 10/028,992 which has now been issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,690,571, a copy of which is attached hereto.

Allowable Subject Matter:

The Office Action indicated that claim 30 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 30 has been rewritten in independent form including the limitations of base claim 9. Claims 15-20 and 58-61 now depend at least indirectly from allowable claim 30. Claims 15-20, 30 and 58-61 are now allowable.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103:

Claims 11-15 and 18-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being obvious over JP 3-48415. Claims 58-61 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over JP '415 and further in view of Mori et al. Claims 9, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Randall et al. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Like allowable claim 30, independent claims 10-14 now require, inter alia,

SHINDO et al. Application No. 10/662,320 November 9, 2004

> "...a designated electrode paste material which is applied to both surfaces of said at least one of a plurality of green sheets, and green sheets applied with said electrode paste material are laminated while sandwiching electrically conductive powder or thin film, and are integrally baked."

JP 3-48415, Mori et al and/or Randall et al fail to teach or suggest the above claimed feature. Independent claims 10-14 and their respective dependents are therefore allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and §103 be withdrawn.

Conclusion:

Applicant believes that this entire application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests a notice to this effect. If the Examiner has any questions or believes that an interview would further prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Kaymond Y. Mah Reg. No. 41,426

RYM:sl

1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor

Arlington, VA 22201-4714 Telephone: (703) 816-4044

Facsimile: (703) 816-4100